## Message Text

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17-12

**ACTION AF-18** 

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 L-03 INSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-10 CPR-02 PRS-01

DRC-01 EB-11 TRSE-00 /096 W

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R 031704Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8236

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

US RECEPTION CENTER NEW YORK

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USUN PLEASE PROTECT TO RECEPTION CENTER

E O 11652 N A

TAGS: ML, US

SUBJ: SENIOR MEMBER MALI GOVT OBJECTS TO AIRPORT FRISKING NEW YORK

REF: BAMAKO 3641

CHARGE D'AFFAIRES PERSONALLY APOLOGIZED TO CAPTAIN FILIFING SISSOKO, MEMBER OF MALI'S RULING MILITARY COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION, ON DEC 3, FOR THE INCIDENT RELATED REFERENCED TELEGRAM. CAPTAIN SISSOKO SAID THAT HE WAS TRAVELING ON A FLIGHT WITH MANY OTHER HIGH LEVEL DELEGATIONS INCLUDING THE RUSSIANS AND THAT SISSOKO WAS THE ONLY ONE WHOSE BRIEFCASE AND PERSON WAS SEARCHED WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS QTE DEEPLY HUMILIATING UNQTE. SISSOKO PARTICULARLY STUNG BY INCIDENT BECAUSE HE HAD INFORMED THE AIRPORT AUTHORITIES ABOUT HIS PISTOL IN ORDER TO AVOID JUST THIS SORT OF INCIDENT. SISSOKO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SENIOR MALI DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE AT THE TIME.

ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY URGES THAT PROMPT INVESTIGA-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TION THIS INCIDENT TAKE PLACE ESPECIALLY TO DETERMINE

IF THERE ISN'T LESS OFFENSIVE MANNER OF DEALING WITH SIMILAR SITUATIONS. POINT IS THAT SISSOKO OFFERED TO HAND HIS BRIEFCASE OVER TO THE AIRCREW DURING FLIGHT TO PARIS AND IT WAS HIS DISPLAY OF COOPERATION AND HONESTY THAT CAUSED FRISKING AND SEARCH HIS PERSON. SISSOKO IS INFLUENTIAL MEMBER MALI GOV'T WHO HAS ALWAYS BEEN HELPFUL AND CORDIAL TO EMBASSY. MOREOVER, AIRPORT FORMALITIES BAMAKO EASIEST IN WEST AFRICA BECAUSE OF GOM COOPERATION WITH EMBASSY REGARDING AMERICAN TRAVELERS. ALL THESE REASONS MAKE IT DESIRABLE THAT SUITABLE APOLOGY BE SENT SOONEST FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SISSOKO.

FOR KATZEN USUN: I ASKED SISSOKO IF HE HAD MET YOU AND HE WAS VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT YOUR KIND ASSISTANCE TO ALL MALIAN DELEGATES INCLUDING HIMSELF. WE APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS ESPECIALLY FOLLOWING UNFORTUNATE AIRPORT INCIDENT.
KUNIHOLM

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: ANTIHIJACKING PROCEDURES, VISITS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL

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Subject: SENIOR MEMBER MALI GOVT OBJECTS TO AIRPORT FRISKING NEW YORK

TAGS: PFOR, ML, US, (SISSOKO FILIFING)

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